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General Notes and Notices.

It came with a shock of sad surprise to many to hear of the death of Arthur Amiaud, which occurred at Paris on May 30th. Though but a few years past thirty he had already acquired a high rank as an Assyriologist, acknowledged to have but few superiors in France or out of it, such was the thoroughness of his attainments and the sagacity of his insight. Of late years he devoted himself chiefly to the study of the Telloh Inscriptions brought to the Louvre by M. de Sarzec, and in this province he was *facile princeps*. His researches published from time to time in the *Zeitschrift fuer Assyriologie* and elsewhere embody all that we substantially know of these inscriptions, and his premature death thus deprives Assyriology of a worker who could ill be spared. Indeed it is questionable whether there is any other scholar living who is ready to take up the work exactly where Amiaud left it. It is pathetic to read that only a few days before his death he put the last touches to the translations of the Gudæa inscriptions which he furnished for the new series of the "Records of the Past," now being published under the editorship of Prof. Sayce. What untold possibilities lay in store for a man of the brilliant scholarship of Prof. Amiaud, and what great services he would have rendered to the cause of science, had he been spared for a longer life, only those can fully estimate who can appreciate at their full worth the importance of his labors. In addition to his researches on the ancient monuments of Chaldæa, Amiaud published, about two years ago, a most valuable *Tableau Comparé*, giving all the varieties of cuneiform characters up to the present time met with in Babylonian and Assyrian inscriptions; and of no less significance are his other contributions which he made from time to time for the *Journal Asiatique*, the *Revue Critique*, the *Revue d'Assyriologie*, the *Babylonian and Oriental Record*, and the already mentioned *Zeitschrift fuer Assyriologie*. They are all distinguished by that extreme ingenuity which is born of patient research; and the verdict which Prof. Haupt recently took occasion to pronounce over Amiaud's writings, that they merit to be read and studied many times, only re-echoes the general high esteem in which the deceased was held. A graduate at the Ecole des Langues Orientales Vivantes and a pupil of Prof. Oppert, he held at the time of his death the chair of Assyriology at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes in Paris. Singularly modest and of a rather retiring disposition, he yet was exceedingly cordial towards the pupils that gathered about him, and those who came into closer contact with him could not help catching some of his rare spirit of zeal and untiring devotion to the cause which now bewails his loss. As one who had the privilege of enjoying his instruction for almost a year, I feel his loss with a special keenness, and with a saddened spirit I lay this small tribute on the newly-made grave.

M. JASTROW, JR.